

Document Information Form

Mine Number: C/007/004

File Name: Internal

To: DOGM

From:

Person N/A

Company N/A.

Date Sent: APRIL 3, 1984

Explanation:

INSPECTION MEMO TO COAL FILE.

cc:

File in: C/007.004. Internal

Refer to:

- Confidential
- Shelf
- Expandable

Date _____ For additional information

April 3, 1984

Inspection Memo
to Coal File:

RE: Price River Coal Company
Price River Complex
ACT/007/004, Folder No. 7
Carbon County, Utah

Sandy Pruitt conducted an inspection, unaccompanied, of the above mentioned operation on November 16, 1983 in follow-up to Notice of Violation (NOV) N83-2-15-1 issued on November 3, 1983. All required abatement actions were adequately completed at the time of this inspection, so NOV #1 of 1 was terminated effectively November 8, 1983 the completion date reported by Rob Wiley, Price River Coal Company (PRCC).

Additional observations made during this inspection warranted a follow-up visit to Rob Wiley at the PRCC office in Helper to discuss necessary compliance measures. The disturbed area drainage diversions to sediment ponds 012A and B at the Castlegate Plant facility were still obstructed and poorly maintained since the last inspection two weeks ago. As the ditch line was marginally functional, it was requested that the ditches be reestablished by the next monthly inspection. I also asked Rob Wiley what PRCC intentions were for repairing a leaky water line adjacent to sediment ponds 012. He maintained that this was a water line servicing the town of Helper, that PRCC had no intentions on repairing their water line contending that the sediment pond, receiving water from the leak, is oversized and handling runoff from only a 1/2 acre watershed.

The undisturbed diversion ditch between the #4 Mine bathhouse and the bridge to Dog Flat in Hardscrabble Canyon was inspected. Another leak in a water line from the bathhouse was observed flowing into the undisturbed diversion starting at 3:40 p.m., and lasting to 4:00 p.m., a time consistent with shift change. The low flow observed through the leak started at the bathhouse and continued only about 50 feet to the adjacent maintenance shed. The drainage diversion was dry above the bathhouse and by the soapy smell of the leakage, it was obvious that this was shower water, but uncertain whether sewage was being released into the undisturbed drainage diversion also. NOV #1 of 1 (N83-2-16-1) was issued on November 17, 1983 for the failure to operate and maintain necessary water treatment facilities to control water pollution (UMC 817.41[d][3] and UCA 40-10-17[2][j]). The remedial action required that the water line from the bathhouse be repaired into the undisturbed drainage ditch no later than contended that this is not a serious violation an have occurred, but the water treatment facilities and needed to be repaired for compliance.

File in:

- Confidential
- Shelf
- Expandable

Refer to Record No. 0015 Date 4-3-84

In C/ 007, 004, Internal

For additional information

April 3, 1984

Inspection Memo
to Coal File:

RE: Price River Coal Company
Price River Complex
ACT/007/004, Folder No. 7
Carbon County, Utah

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Additional observations made during this inspection warranted a follow-up visit to Rob Wiley at the PRCC office in Helper to discuss necessary compliance measures. The disturbed area drainage diversions to sediment ponds 012A and B at the Castlegate Plant facility were still obstructed and poorly maintained since the last inspection two weeks ago. As the ditch line was marginally functional, it was requested that the ditches be reestablished by the next monthly inspection. I also asked Rob Wiley what PRCC intentions were for repairing a leaky water line adjacent to sediment ponds 012. He maintained that this was a water line servicing the town of Helper, that PRCC had no intentions on repairing their water line contending that the sediment pond, receiving water from the leak, is oversized and handling runoff from only a 1/2 acre watershed.

The undisturbed diversion ditch between the #4 Mine bathhouse and the bridge to Dog Flat in Hardscrabble Canyon was inspected. Another leak in a water line from the bathhouse was observed flowing into the undisturbed diversion starting at 3:40 p.m., and lasting to 4:00 p.m., a time consistent with shift change. The low flow observed through the leak started at the bathhouse and continued only about 50 feet to the adjacent maintenance shed. The drainage diversion was dry above the bathhouse and by the soapy smell of the leakage, it was obvious that this was shower water, but uncertain whether sewage was being released into the undisturbed drainage diversion also. NOV #1 of 1 (N83-2-16-1) was issued on November 17, 1983 for the failure to operate and maintain necessary water treatment facilities to control water pollution (UMC 817.41[d][3] and UCA 40-10-17[2][j]). The remedial action required that the water line from the bathhouse be repaired to prevent leakage into the undisturbed drainage ditch no later than December 16, 1983. It is contended that this is not a serious violation and that no damage is likely to have occurred, but the water treatment facilities were inadequately maintained and needed to be repaired for compliance.

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A more serious pollution source was detected below the leak in the bathhouse water line along a section of the undisturbed drainage diversion beside the maintenance shed where gas had leaked from a diesel storage tank and saturated the soil in the ditch at the northwest corner of the maintenance shed. Three soil samples were taken and sample sites photo-documented for the analysis of diesel contamination in the ditch line. Sample #1 taken above the saturation zone above the northwest corner of the maintenance shed was analyzed to contain less than .01% petroleum hydrocarbons quantified as diesel. Sample #2 which was taken within the saturation zone directly at the base of the maintenance shed contained .66% petroleum hydrocarbons quantified as diesel. Sample #3 taken in the diversion ditch below the saturation zone, about 1/4 length along the maintenance shed, was analyzed to contain .0158% petroleum hydrocarbons quantified as diesel. This indicates that there is diesel contamination in the undisturbed drainage ditch at the base of the northwest corner of the maintenance shed which is dispersing downstream along the maintenance shed. This is also apparent by the gaseous smell of the water leaked from the bathhouse after it has passed by the maintenance shed. This inspector attempted to issue a NOV for the failure to control disposal of noncoal wastes under UMC 817.89, but Rob Wiley explained that the leak from the diesel tank had already been controlled upon a request by Dave Lof in a previous inspection (this was verified with Dave Lof) so that the noncoal waste (leaks from the diesel gas tank) were already controlled. As it appeared that the leakage problem had been addressed but that adequate clean-up wasn't required at the time and since the extent of water pollution attributable to a .66% level of diesel contamination was unquantifiable, this inspector agreed that enforcement action was not warranted at this time. PRCC committed to removal all of the saturated soil and apply a line around the diesel tank to prevent leakage into the ditch and to fully alleviate all damages from the repaired leak in the gas tank.

Sandy Pruitt 
Field Specialist

SP/btb

cc: Jodie Merriman, OSM, Albuquerque
Rob Wiley, PRCC
J. Helfrich, DOGM

Statistics:

See Gerwal memo dated January 13, 1984.
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